

ISSUES & EVENTS

Vol. 4, No. 12 - December 1, 1972

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More decisions should be made in private

Sevigny looks at minority government by the press

Pierre Sevigny, associate minister of defense in the Diefenbaker cabinet, says that a minority government is in a precarious situation because it stands to be defeated not only in the House of Commons by a vote of non-confidence, but also by the electorate in an ensuing election.

"If a government is in a bad minority position, such as is the case at present, it means that it hasn't got the favour of the people. If a motion is presented which incurs not only the displeasure of the House but the displeasure of the population at large, then if the government is defeated in the House it runs the risk of being badly defeated at the polls. This is why a minority government is a very undesirable position to be in. And furthermore it's not conducive to good sound administration because decisions and all moves are governed by political contingencies."

These political contingencies are related to the press, Sevigny maintains. "It's just a make-shift cabinet. Actually there's no added strength; there's absolutely nothing that makes this cabinet look any better than the last. The very fact that Trudeau made so many changes is an admission that he was wrong in having certain ministers in the spot they were in before. It's strictly a make-shift affair, a desperate move to try to gain a certain degree of confidence by making it appear that the cabinet is strong."

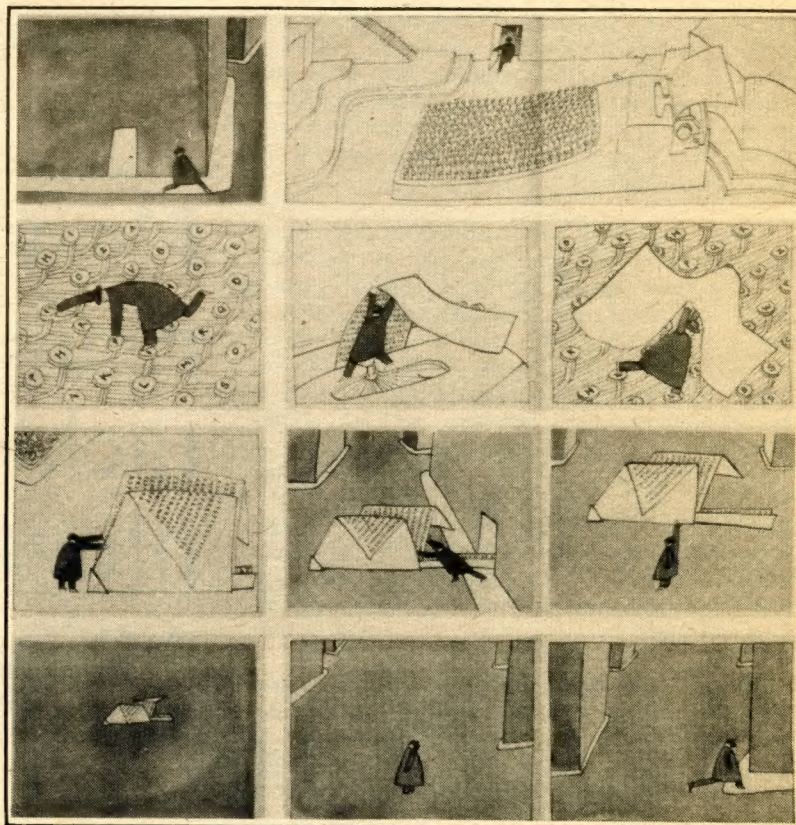
"That's a way to impress the press, to get the press to say that Trudeau is a smart fellow and is making the right moves. Trudeau doesn't care too much about Parliament at present. What he cares about is regaining some of his lost popularity."

Sevigny thinks that the press is of tremendous importance. "Today you can sell a politician the way you can sell a consumer product. If the press favours a party, because people do read newspapers and do listen to comments on radio and TV, then that party has a definite advantage."

In turn, the politicians, at least "the smart ones", get their information about public sentiments from the press, Sevigny says. "If you read enough press reports, eventually you do get a consensus of what the press thinks of you. If the press is dead against you, this will eventually influence the people enough so that they will be against you. It's no doubt that it will influence your destiny."

The legitimacy of this cyclical process depends in large measure on the accuracy of the press. Sevigny claims "the press, unfortunately, is not too accurate (and yet) they can make or destroy a man."

"Sometimes a man has a strong enough personality to get through to the people in spite of the press, but it seldom happens."



As an example of this process going wrong, Sevigny looks back on the War Measures Act. "It was just a case of a few crackpots who decided, as Mr. Cross said after he was liberated, to stage a revolution. Eventually the press made it appear that a revolution was in the making in Quebec, which was absolutely false and contrary to facts. But they made such a storm and it looked so bad that eventually it forced a public call for strong measures. And these strong measures were the sending of troops into Quebec."

You mean the War Measures Act was invoked not because there was a revolution, but to appease the public who were led to believe there was one? "That's exactly right," Sevigny replied.

continued next page

"Trudeau doesn't care too much about Parliament at present. What he cares about is regaining some of his lost popularity."



Issues & Events and You

Academics, students, all of sound knowledge are invited to come to the aid of their old school. SGWU. SGWU needs you, the *Issues & Events* team particularly. We're looking for copy in a number of areas.

Letters: Anyone who has done any travelling and has come back with interesting things to watch out for and learn about - the sort of stuff that never appears in the *Star* and *Gazette* editorial pages, but often in the travel pages of more reputable American papers and magazines - as well as interesting points to be wary about, where life, limb and money are concerned.

Current Events: Anyone who feels he has something to contribute in the way of information, opinion or anything else on subjects currently gripping the public's attention is invited to do so.

Serendipity Stuff: Anything of an out-of-the-way nature concerning Sir George, Montreal, and other areas where undiscovered bits of useless but entertaining information lurk. This might concern the complex story of Simon Bolivar's bust finding its way to a MacGregor St. park or how the chancel of Notre Dame church came to look like a branch of F.W. Woolworth & Co.

Projects: Information concerning projects that you know about or would like to know more

about; projects that you know about in other cities or countries that might with certain adaptation find application here.

Community Models: Suggestions on how to make Montreal street life exist and grow; this takes the form of everything from redesigning streets - beginning hopefully with that boulevard of Bilge - de Maisonneuve - to ways of legislating the awarding of free beer to those who drive up to a street corner bar on bicycle.

Handbook Material: If you know how to build something novel without having to pay royalties to Buckminster Fuller, know how to go somewhere cheap without having to contribute to Arthur Fromm's already rich existence, know how to do anything that you think might be useful to your neighbour, then pass any tips you have on for publication.

University and Education: Is our education system as good as SGWU and Cloutier have it cut out to be? If not, what can be done about it; what can be done immediately and in the long range.

If you can spare any time, think about these and other things which might be of interest to other readers, get them down on paper and send them along to *Issues & Events*. As someone once remarked - you'll be glad you did.

If more of us approached our cooking area with a realization of the disasters it can generate, the insurance statistics would change. Most accidents, like most murders, occur at home, and in the home the kitchen is the real mine field. The spectacularly advertised public poisonings of Elks conventions and encyclopedia salesmen's luncheon meetings are statistically insignificant beside the innumerable malaises, ranging from incipient to terminal, that people cook up for themselves. The range of disorders covers a broad spectrum from the mildew-flavoured belch on through the upset stomach to the tropically named (but universally experienced) Montezuma's Revenge and Gypsy Tummy; then to dysentery and cholera, with a shuddery crescendo finale in botulism. These, all except for botulism, are "dirt diseases", and are so easily preventable that there is no need for you to go home right now and throw your kitchen gear away. Just clean it up when you get home.

"Change and decay in all around I see", wrote the hymnodist, and his line may well be taken as a keynote quote for some slightly sombre considerations of our grub. Except for a very few minerals, like salt, what we eat is all organic - animal or vegetable products that are subject to oxidation, fermentation, pollution, corruption and nasty old-fashioned rot. The preservation of food, by an enormous variety of processes, whether heating, smoking, pickling, drying, salting, refrigeration, radiation or giving it to the dog to bury for later use, is part of the story, and much of the motive, of human progress, but all these activities over the centuries have not altered that original change-and-decay principle.

Certainly, there are many instances of beneficent rot, or pourriture noble, without which there would be no wine, that maketh glad the heart of man, nor cheese, that maketh it possible for man to drink more wine; however, if you ask your system to accept a fermented pork chop or an oxidized chickenburger, you're going to get a refusal that will send you spinning like a yo-yo.

When you are a-cooking, remember that there are more than aesthetic reasons for washing up before and after. A sink full of dirty dishes discourages one from even attempting to get another meal ready; gummy, greasy, and entering the first stages of putridity, the past week's cups and plates, pans and cutlery lie sneering and fleering at your claims to self-sufficiency. Now don't, in despondency, slosh off a plate with cold water and serve yourself a couple of the day before yesterday's bake shop cream buns on top of last Friday's varnish-hard egg stains. Either the dried egg or the cream filling can put you out for the count. No; clean it up, all of it, and start out fresh. Hot (really hot) water and soap or detergent are enough to keep your equipment kissing-sweet. Kissing? Why yes; didn't you realize there's a fantastic oral thing going food-wise? Like you take it in your mouth, actually. So isn't it nicer if it's clean?

Don't get neurotic about dishwashing, though. Soap and hot water are enough, plus air drying. A dish towel can be really quite a dirty thing, that does no more than smear germs from one plate to another. And if it's a dish towel that has been in use for a week it's probably septic. Strenuous antiseptics are not necessary, and they usually have a taste or smell that lasts a long time. But then so do detergents, so be sure to rinse what you're washing in plain hot water - really hot.

Seigny continued

Mr. Seigny's opinion of the press should be seen in the light of the fact that he was the victim of some scandalous headlines over an alleged affair with an alien girl when he was associate defense minister?.

Seigny holds press coverage at least partly responsible for the inconclusiveness of many government conferences. "These conferences are very often overpublicized. The fact that all that happens is in due course reported by the press, causes a great many people who might (otherwise) come forth with valuable suggestions to refrain from doing so for fear of being too criticized. A great many of these conferences should be held in camera (behind closed doors) instead of being open to the public. This is another failing of democracy."

How to really tackle a plugged up sink

Of course, if you're living the simple life, your dishwashing will of necessity be simpler, remember. The fewer things you have, the fewer there are to use and wash -- reason enough to avoid plunging into eight-place sets that let you get three days' dishes dirty.

Dishwashing has brought us into the sink area of your life, and we might just as well be practical and prurient while we're here. Try to think rather disgustingly, and visualize the sink and its drain as an essentially excretory apparatus. This view may urge you to a reasonable caution and reverence, and even a moderate tenderness in the use of your sink and its drains. No sink was ever built to pass cigarette butts, noodles, eyebrow tweezers or gnawed spare ribs - its simple system binds up stubbornly on anything bulkier or more solid than coffee grounds, so keep its diet liquid. Use a strainer to filter out solids. You'll find that after a while even the liquid greases of routine dishwashing may slow down your sink drain, and then, with all the caution the labels prescribe, use one of the drain cleaners you should have on hand as a routine emergency supply. This may not succeed, except to turn the grease to soap, which is just as cloggy. There is no need to send for the plumber yet, though. Be sure you've got all the corrosives out of the sink with a cup, bucket, rubber gloves and no splashing; dilute what is standing in the stopped drain with more water and more boiling, and keep on being careful. Don't do this alone; get someone in to pass you things and pour vinegar on any splashes of lye. Get a short, say 18-inch length of hose, and some wadding - dish cloths, socks, anything - fit the hose on the tap at one end and put the other end into the drain hole, packing the space around the hose with the wadding. Then turn the tap on slowly. Quite often the pressure of water will blast the obstruction out, and nearly always you'll have some squirts of water to mop up, but you have saved time, and spared yourself the searing sight of three plumbers earning the down payment on a ski lodge at St. Sauveur.

For more serious afflictions of the sink drain, and as an introduction to graduate proctology (a word to send you scampering to your dictionary) the following procedures provide a half-hour's good dirty fun, if you like Doctor games:

Superficial examination and routine palpation (Scrabble, anyone?) indicate a solid obstruction of the S-trap. Oh, yes, Doctor, it's surgery that's indicated - the heart-warming country-doctor, twitching-cheek-muscle sort of surgery we learned at our Granny's T.V. Bucket, wrench (good big



monkey wrench borrowed from the corner garage) and caution; and, depending on the patient's build (some sinks have an S-trap all in one piece, with a flange-screw joint at each end; others have a plug at the bottom of the lower curve) we either remove the S-trap, or unscrew the plug. Oh, my! What dirty water, what muck, what guck, most of it in the bucket, but a lot of it in our hair, somehow. And now we pan in on the obstruction: five gold rings, four calling-birds, three French hens, two turtle doves and an intrauterine loop. Close-up of doctor, bloody but unbowed, stern but tender "Well, Myrtle, you shouldn't have done it. But I guess you've learned that by now, eh?" Fade-out to sniffles.

This sort of drama, I hasten to point out, can be avoided by giving your sink no more than it can reasonably digest. Many kinds of small garbage - plate scrapings, peelings, egg shells, Saran wrappings from the chops, butts can go down the toilet with a quick flush. Have some sense, and calculate what is reasonable to flush, on the basis of the toilet's more usual diet. A diced turnip, not a whole, turnip; cole slaw, not a cabbage, dear. And crush those egg shells.

But back to the sink, our auxiliary bowel (there's gutsy writing for you). If your sink wears drawers, cupboards, shelves or skirts, remember that these intimacies are apt to be dark, damp and warm. It follows that even the nicest sink's personal daintiness is going to be impaired by your stuffing damp cloths, old newspapers or vegetables into its privities. Ask yourself how long you'd be tolerable, if your nearest and dearest turned you loose on the town with your briefs basketing a bugger-mugger of shrivelled string beans, mildewed paperbacks, and three apple cores and a cigar stub wrapped in a used kleenex. So use under-sink storage for incorruptables only. Cleaning materials and kitchen hardware are pretty well the limit. If the space is really damp, from condensation on cold pipes, keep it open as much as is possible, watch for rust, mildew, beetles and silverfish, and pester the landlord for a chemical dehumidifier or dryer.

All this is to get it across that a sink is fundamental in every sense of the word; word-gamey reductions to fun from fundamental rather tempt me, but it's probably standard to stick to some safe alliterative tongue-twister. Say three times quickly:

Sinks should stay safe and sanitary.

HOWARD GREER

... nearly always you'll have some squirts of water to mop up, but you have saved time and spared yourself the searing sight of three plumbers earning the down payment on a ski lodge at St. Sauveur.



Council Report

The concept of supplemental examinations will undergo thorough examination by the University Council Priorities Committee, it was decided at University Council's meeting of November 24.

This means that Commerce & Administration still does not have approval to eliminate supplementals from its offerings, all half courses. Dean Andrew Berczi sees the present system "penalizing students by asking them to sit supplementals in June for courses failed in December."

A recommendation from the University Curriculum Coordinating Committee would maintain the offering of supplementals where feasible, while accepting the principle that they cannot be made universally available; it would require that availability or not be clearly indicated in the announcement, and that a decision not to make supplementals available be approved by the appropriate faculty council.

University Council amended this to give itself final approval on any eliminated exam; but before a vote was called the whole matter was referred to UCPC for study of the broader implications of a semester system. The new calendar will contain a cautionary note that change to the supplementals regulations is being considered.

During the debate the Registrar presented current statistics on supplementals; of 20% applying to write them, 39% pass and 61% fail again.

On the cheating front, Dean of Arts Ian Campbell successfully plugged a hole in the regulations. He was concerned with the difficulty of proving intent in cases

where crib notes are discovered on a student's person. Now the possession of any unauthorized material at an exam will be accepted as proof of attempting to cheat.

Professor David Charlton questioned the severity of the penalty for cheating (suspension for the year and that year's credits cancelled). His experience with the regulations has shown that there are degrees of guilt, yet only one punishment. Dean Campbell felt the penalty was not the end of the world and was justified by the offence.



Jobs

ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHER - CENTER FOR INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY (C.I.T.)

General basic photography, including film processing in colour and black-and-white; printing and photo finishing.

Interested candidates please apply to the undersigned in writing or by phone at local 4521.

Nelson Gibeau

	total failures & absences	application to write supps	pass	fail
Arts	1553	308	102	206
Science	3442	627	218	409
Commerce	599	172	59	113
Engineering	370	140	105	35
Computer Science	209	19	5	14
	6173	1266	489	777

Fortune, April, 1968

ad for Commonwealth of Puerto Rico:

The President of Puerto Rico's Inter-American University is Doctor Raymond B. Hoxeng - one of the research associates on the Manhattan Project that developed the atomic bomb. Among his plans for his expanding university: a 230,000-volume library to be built across a ravine.

How ya gonna make the ravine, Doc?

Degrees, anyone?

What do Robert Charlebois, Lawrence Welk and Dinah Shore have in common with Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Cecil Beaton? Who the hell cares, you say.

All did or do have have a chance at getting very special distinction - an honorary degree from SGWU. Now, we're talking eh!

How did they miss up to now? How did anyone miss up to now? Well, there are a lot of reasons really, some too complex to go into here.



One thing is sure though, nobody can have one unless they're nominated. So let's get started 'cause time's running out. Any suggestions should be directed to the Principal, John O'Brien, by January 1.

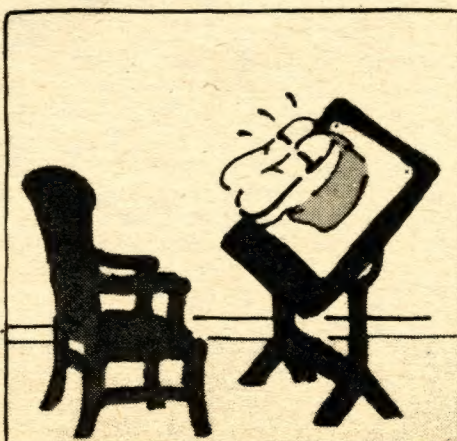
Plan now and avoid next year's Christmas rush. Give your loved one an honorary degree. You'll be glad you did.

Again, nominations should be in by January 1st.

Space Studies

Study room space has been increased for the forthcoming crunch.

In addition to the rooms below there is the possibility of tables, chairs and temporary lighting being installed on the mezzanine of the Hall Building, so watch for an announcement or just keep an eye on the general area:



Room H-1017 Tuesday, Thursday 1:15 - 4 p.m.; H-1219 Tuesday, Thursday 2:45 - 5:30 p.m.; H-1221 Tuesday, Thursday 2:45 - 5:30 p.m. and Monday (except Dec. 4), Friday 2:10 - 5 p.m.; N-320 Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:45 - 11:45 a.m.; N-331 Tuesday, Thursday 8:45 - 11:30 a.m.; E-210 Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:45 a.m. - 3:25 p.m.

UCSL Report

What this university needs is a slip-cased 1972-73 yearbook, \$5,000 more for the chaplain, and fresh student merit awards. So said University Council on Student Life at its November 27 meeting.

The yearbook ("an excellent opportunity for innovation, experimentation, and the application of new ideas in... visual graphics," said the proposal) will cost \$6,453 for 1,000 copies. The money will come from UCSL's \$80,000 surplus.

A recent questionnaire to 2,000 students drew 103 replies, 79 of them wanting a yearbook. UCSL decided that graduating students (six - seven hundred) will get the books free, with remaining quantity going for \$2.50 a copy.

Graduate student representative Peter Kontakos argued successfully that while potential graduates would never vote to pay for such an item, a yearbook will be a great meaning to them in years to come and is a souvenir service the university is meant to provide. Professor David Miller cautioned against any future such subsidy without an examination of priorities.



UCSL had previously voted to pay the full-time chaplain \$3,750 (a sum in addition to what the man gets from his church), with the Principal footing 1/3 of that bill. The Principal, however, had turned down the request. Now Dean of Students Magnus Flynn was going for a greater subsidy for the chaplain - "not \$20,000 and not \$5,000," Flynn hedged for fear of revealing the cleric's salary. Council finally allowed a new total of \$5,000.

New awards for contributions to student life were established to be presented annually, when merited, to: a day, evening and graduate student; a member of the university making the most outstanding contribution through the media; a graduating student and a non-student. Plaques for prizes and a banquet for the presentation.



SGWU THIS WEEK

Photos and notices of coming events should be in by Wednesday noon for Thursday publication (basement, 2145 Mackay) or call Maryse Perraud, 879-2823.

friday 1

WEISSMAN GALLERY: SGWU permanent collection, through January 8.
GALLERY I: Painting and sculpture by Paul Laberge and Claude Magnan, through December 12.
ALUMINI ART GALLERY: Marilyn Milburn paintings at 1476 Crescent.
BAZAAR: Display and sale of arts and crafts on the mezzanine of the Hall Building from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
POETRY SERIES: Mac Hammond, a pretty funny fellow given to documenting American ceremonies, celebrations and public fantasies, reads in the Hall Building mezzanine art gallery at 9 p.m.; free.
KARMA COFFEE HOUSE: Mike Allen with folk blues from Boston at 1476 Crescent, 9 p.m.; \$1.
GEORGIAN FILM SOCIETY: "Walkabout" at 7 p.m. and "Seven Samurai" at 9 p.m.; each \$1 in H-110.

saturday 2

KARMA COFFEE HOUSE: See Friday.
CONSERVATORY OF CINEMATOGRAPHIC ART: "Cops" (Buster Keaton, 1922) and "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" (Robert Wein, 1919) at 8 p.m. in H-110; 50¢ students, 75¢ non-students.

sunday 3

CONSERVATORY OF CINEMATOGRAPHIC ART: "Way Down East" (D.W. Griffith, 1920) at 8 p.m. in H-110; 50¢ students, 75¢ non-students.

monday 4

CONSERVATORY OF CINEMATOGRAPHIC ART: Start of a festival (through Sunday) of young French (from France, that is) filmmakers, with never-before-seen-in-Quebec films - "Benito Cereno" (Serge Roullet) and "Luger" (Georges Bensoussan) at 8 p.m. in H-110; 50¢ students, 75¢ non-students.

tuesday 5

CONSERVATORY OF CINEMATOGRAPHIC ART: "Valparaíso, Valparaíso" (Pascal Aubier) at 7 p.m., "Home Sweet Home" (Liliane de Kermadec) and

"Pourquoi?" (Jean-Denis Berenbaum) at 9 p.m. in H-110; 50¢ students, 75¢ non-students.
GEORGIAN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: Bible study 4 p.m. at 2050 Mackay, room 303.

wednesday 6

KARMA COFFEE HOUSE: Pub night 4 - 11 p.m. with free peanuts, free jukebox and beer 75¢ the quart for those with ID at 1476 Crescent.
CHAPLAINS: Gregory Baum mingles in H-435 at 4 p.m. and speaks on "Does Religion Have a Future" at 8:30 p.m. in the D.B. Clarke Theatre.

thursday 7

KARMA COFFEE HOUSE: Folksinger Gary Wallace at 9 p.m. at 1476 Crescent; \$1.
CANADIAN STUDIES: NFB series "Struggle for a Border" - "The Triumphant Union and the Canadian Confederation (1863-1867)" at 5 p.m. in H-435.
CONSERVATORY OF CINEMATOGRAPHIC ART: "La Poupée Rouge" (Francis Leroy) at 7 p.m., "Le Cinématographe" (Michel Baulez) and "Jemina Fille des Montagnes" (Annie Weinberger) at 9 p.m. in H-110; 50¢ students, 75¢ non-students.

friday 8

FACULTY CLUB: Christmas party with \$3.50 roast beef dinner 7 p.m. (Cissie for reservations - 879-2842).
INDIAN STUDENTS' SOCIETY: Meeting at 2 p.m. in H-413.
KARMA COFFEE HOUSE: See Thursday.
CONSERVATORY OF CINEMATOGRAPHIC ART: "Le Soldat Laforet" (Guy Cavagnac) at 7 p.m., "Méditerranée" and "Le Horla" (Jean-Daniel Pollet) at 9 p.m. in H-110; 50¢ students, 75¢ non-students.

saturday 9

KARMA COFFEE HOUSE: See Thursday.
CONSERVATORY OF CINEMATOGRAPHIC ART: Panel with young French director Michel Baulez and Quebec filmmakers and critics at 4 p.m. in H-110 - free; "Détruire Dit-Elle" (Marguerite Duras) at 6

p.m., "La Cicatrice Intérieure" (Philippe Garrel) and "Le Pied" (Robert D.H. O'Neill) at 8 p.m., "Les Passagers" (Annie Tresgot) at 10 p.m. in H-110; 50¢ students, 75¢ non-students.

sunday 10

CONSERVATORY OF CINEMATOGRAPHIC ART: Conclusion of young French filmmakers festival - "La Famille" (Yvan Lagrange) and "Aussi Loin que mon Enfance" (Marilu Parolini, Jean Eustache) at 3 p.m., "Un Autre Monde" (Michel Baulez) at 6 p.m., "Le Lit de la Vierge" Philippe Garrel at 9 p.m. in H-110; 50¢ students, 75¢ non-students.

notices

HOLIDAYS: The university will be closed from Saturday, December 23 through Tuesday, January 2.
LIBRARY HOURS: Monday, December 18 to Thursday, December 21: open 8:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.; Friday, December 22: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday, December 23 to Tuesday, December 26: closed; Wednesday, December 27 to Friday, December 29: noon - 8 p.m.; Saturday, December 30 to Tuesday, January 2: closed (main library reading room open 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.); Wednesday, January 3: 8:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.
BOOKSTORE: Closed for inventory Thursday, December 14 and stays closed until January 3.
SPCA is looking for donations for a December 9 bazaar; articles (second-hand clothes, books, games, records, toys, etc.) can be brought to the Day Students' Association in H-333.

ISSUES & EVENTS

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